Remarks

Claims 1-20 were pending. Claims 4, 5 and 10-20 are cancelled while claim 21 has been amended. Applicants assert that claims 1-4, 6-9, 17, 18 and 20 are now in condition for allowance as set forth more fully below.

Elections

Withdrawn claims 5 and 10-16 have been cancelled.

Double Patenting

Claims 17 and 20 have been provisionally rejected. These claims have been cancelled thereby rendering this rejection moot.

112 Rejections

Claims 4 and 5 have been rejected under 35 USC 112. These claims have been cancelled thereby rendering this rejection moot.

102 Rejections

The Office Action is ambiguous as to the section under §102 because it is indicated that claims 18 and 19 are rejected. However, if claim 18 which is a dependent claim is rejected, then claim 17 must also be rejected under this section. Furthermore, claim 19 has been previously cancelled. Therefore, Applicants believe that the Action intended to reject claims 17 and 18. Regardless, claims 17-19 have all been cancelled thereby rendering this rejection moot.

Allowed Claims

Claims 1-3 and 6-9 have been indicated as being allowable. Furthermore, claim 21 has been indicated as having allowable subject matter but has been objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. Claim 21 has been amended to include all recitations of the base claim and any intervening claim such that claim 21 is now also in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicants assert that the application including claims 1-3, 6-9, and 21 is in condition for allowance. Applicants request reconsideration in view of the amendment and remarks above and further request that a Notice of Allowability be provided. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

No fees are believed due. However, please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3025.

Respectfully submitted,

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